

**Town of Salem
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
December 6, 2011**

Present: Kevin Lyden, Robyn McKenney, Elbert Burr, Lewis Buckley

Absent: Robert Ross

Call to order:

K. Lyden called the meeting to order at 7:31 P.M.

K. Lyden welcomed Lewis Buckley and Elbert Burr to the Board of Selectmen.

K. Lyden reminded residents December 7 is the 70th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. He asked residents to please take time to reflect and honor the brave men and women and the sacrifices they have paid and continue to pay for the freedoms that we enjoy today.

K. Lyden wished residents a safe and joyful holiday season from the Board of Selectmen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. Approval of Minutes

M/S/C (McKenney/Burr) to approve the Board of Selectmen November 1, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

Vote: R. McKenney, E. Burr, and K. Lyden. Abstaining: L. Buckley

M/S/C (Burr/Lyden) to approve the Board of Selectmen November 9, 2011 Special Meeting Minutes as presented. Vote: Approved by E. Burr and K. Lyden Abstaining: R. McKenney

2. Correspondence/Public Comments:

Correspondence – None to report.

Public Comment – None at this time.

3. Agenda Additions or Revisions:

Addition to Agenda:

C) Assignment of Acting Selectman

C) is now D) Reappoint Roger Phillips to the Inland Wetlands & Conservation Commission

D) is now E) Tax Collector Refunds

M/S/C (Lyden/Burr) to approve the addition and re-lettering of Agenda items. Vote: approved unanimously.

4. Agenda

A. Endorse “Regional Performance Incentive Program”

M/S/C (Buckley/McKenney) to endorse the “Resolution of Endorsement and Certification of the Regional Performance Incentive Program proposal referenced in Section 5 of the Public Act 11-61 (An Act Concerning Responsible Growth)” as presented.

Vote: approved unanimously.

(See attached)

B. Approve 2012 Board of Selectmen Meeting Dates

M/S/C (Burr/Buckley) to approve the Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Dates for 2012 as presented.

Vote: approved unanimously

(See attached)

C. Assignment of Acting Selectman

K. Lyden informed the Selectmen in his absence, Selectman Robert Ross is willing to continue to be acting First Selectman as he has been in the past.

M/S/C (McKenney/Burr) to have Selectman Robert Ross serve as Acting First Selectman in the absence of First Selectman Kevin Lyden.

Vote: approved unanimously.

D. Reappoint Roger Phillips to the Inland Wetlands & Conservation Commission

M/S/C (Burr/Buckley) to reappoint Roger Phillips to the Inland Wetlands & Conservation Commission.

Vote: approved unanimously.

E. Tax Collector Refunds

The report from the Tax Collector was reviewed.

M/S/C (Fogarty/McKenney) for the Board of Selectmen to direct the town Treasurer to issue refunds recommended and certified by the Tax Collector report dated December 6, 2011 in the amount of \$740.20.

Vote: approved unanimously.

(See attached)

5. Reports

A. First Selectman –

An “Oath of Office” ceremony was held for new and re-elected Commission/Committee members. It was a nice gathering with friends and family.

The Salem Recreation Commission sponsored “Holiday Tree Lighting” on December 3 was successful. Many residents attended; 8th grade students helped hand out donuts and Santa arrived on a fire truck.

The first phase of the sidewalk is completed. This goes from Salem School to the Town Green. It is getting too cold to pour more concrete; phase 2 from the Town Green to the Library will be completed in the spring. 80% of the project was funded by Federal funds through the State DOT.

The pavilion is erected. CL&P will put in a new pole. The electric work needs to be finished. The handicap parking spot and walkway to the pavilion will be paved.

The Boys Scouts are clearing the area around Dolbeare Dam. They are cutting brush and cutting wood and might possibly add benches. This was the area of an original gristmill.

The brush pile from Hurricane Irene will be removed over the winter.

Dunkin Donuts will be opening in Salem in January.

The roundabout project for the intersection of RT 82 & 85 is on schedule. The water system under the old country store will be moved to the back of the building; the old country store will be taken down in April.

There have been complaints of an odor at “four corners”; it was determined the smell is from approved fertilizer from the farm on Hagen Road.

B. Public Works – The paving is now complete on Rattlesnake Ledge Road; reflectors will be added.

The Public Works crew is still cleaning up from the storms. This has impacted the budget.

K. Lyden reminded residents to slow down and drive safely on Forsyth Road.

C. Building Department- Diane Weston informed the Board that permits are being issued for whole house generators.

D. Salem School Building Committee- E. Burr informed the BOS the new school boilers are up and functioning at 86 percent efficiency. Last Thursday, the service department staff of the school was introduced to the operation of the new boilers and brought up to speed on issues they should be aware of concerning their operation and safety features of the boilers.

The boilers were inspected by our building inspector Vernon Vesey and his report has been forwarded to the State for final review.

Plans were received for the second half of the school construction work during the month of October. Some changes were required to the plans submitted by the Silver Petrucelli Architectural Firm to fit the original scope of the project. We are very close to our goal at this point and will be ready to meet with the State Architectural Design group in January.

E. Board of Education – For the November meeting, R. McKenney reported the Science Program was reviewed. The school is starting to use Unifund.
The new chairperson for the BOE is Steve Buck.

F. Board of Finance- K. Lyden reported a special meeting was held to discuss the duties of the BOF.

G. Planning and Zoning Commission – E. Burr informed the BOS the language for updating the town subdivision regulations is being worked on for revision needed brought on by the State of CT's new bonding regulations. The challenge is in developing language that protects the town from sub-divider negligence during development; at the same time allowing the work to proceed with as much as possible to have a happy conclusion for the Town and the sub divider. The Committee is making progress.

They are also looking at finalizing comments on the Town plan of conservation and Development in readiness for public hearing. They are also looking at final comments to the Town Center plan.

They are ready to adopt a new digitized Town of Salem Zoning Map which the Board has been working on for a year. The new map is clear and easy to printout. It is not designed to be the final word on property line locations and was not developed for that purpose.

H. Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission – No report.

I. Economic Development Commission- Nicole Gadbois is a new member of the Commission. Treasure Hill Farm has been issued its' Certificate of Occupancy. They held an open house on December 3rd.

J. Zoning Board of Appeals – No report.

K. Recreation Commission – Diane Weston reported after school programs are being held.
The Holiday Tree Lighting was a success.

L. Public Safety- No report.

M. Transfer Station – Amnesty Days in November went well. The Transfer Station is now cleaned up from the Amnesty Days.

N. Library Board- The Board has new members.

6. Public Comment

Eric Henderson from the CATO Rocket Club asked the BOS why they received a letter that the club could no longer use the Town owned Gadbois property on Rt 82. The club works with school groups, scouting, 4H Clubs and other children orientated groups. They are a national organization and follow safety guidelines from the organization.

K. Lyden informed Mr. Henderson due to the building of the pavilion on the property, an events policy for the Town needs to be in place for use of the facility. He hopes this will be in place by March.

E. Burr asked if the Club could submit a write up of how the rockets work and what the club does.

K. Lyden stated that is not relevant at this time due to not having a policy in place.

Mr. Henderson stated he wanted to be sure the Club left on good terms and that being told not to use the property was not due to misuse of the property by the Club.

K. Lyden informed Mr. Henderson once a policy and use form is in place, the CATO Rocket Club could submit a use form if they were within the guidelines. He also stated Municipal use and Town Clubs would have a preference over non-Town users.

7. Future Action Items

1. Town Events Policy

K. Lyden has been pulling together information he has received from CIRMA and “Draft 6” of the Town Events Policy that was submitted by Robert Ross. He will ask the Town’s insurance CIRMA to review the policy.

The BOS will have working meetings to write a policy for Town Events.

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Adjournment

M/S/C (McKenney/Burr) to adjourn at 8:17 P.M.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Diane Weston

Recording Secretary